



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney*

*Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

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**September 17, 2003**

**NEWS RELEASE**

United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the filing of an Information<sup>1</sup> against Geraldine Thomas charging making a false statement, in violation of 18 U.S.C.

§ 1001(a)(2). The information alleges that Thomas served as president of the Philadelphia Regional Alliance of HUD Tenants (PRAHT) located in Philadelphia, PA and that Thomas received approximately \$24,000 in HUD grant funds awarded to PRAHT without authorization and concealed this information in connection with an audit by claiming that funds were paid to a fictitious company for services provided to PRAHT.

**INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS**

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH
Geraldine Thomas	4001 Monument Road Apartment 720 Philadelphia, PA	6/3/53

If convicted, the defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 5 years imprisonment, a 3-year period of supervised release and \$250,000 in fines.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations, and has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Anne Whatley Chain.

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<sup>1</sup>An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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